

## U. S. Department of Justice

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 24, 2007

370969

FEDERAL BUREAU

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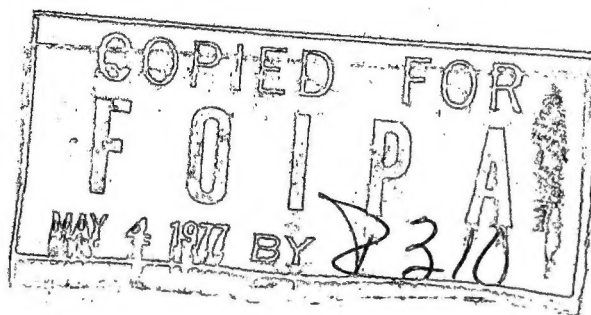
of

REQUESTED BY *Marcoriano*

MAR 24 1980

FILED BY *787*

INVESTIGATION



USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: August 8, 1950

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: RE: OSCAR BRAND  
SECURITY MATTER - C

(LOUIS BUDENZ 400)

LOUIS F. BUDENZ, formerly managing editor of the "Daily Worker" and a Communist Party functionary until he broke with the Party in October, 1945 has been interviewed during the past few months concerning the concealed Communists whom he knew. The person named above as the subject of this case, was one of those individuals whom BUDENZ described as a concealed Communist. BUDENZ describes a concealed Communist as one who does not hold himself out as a Communist and who would deny membership in the Party.

BUDENZ advised SA WILLIAM J. MC CARTHY, JR. on June 30, 1950 of all he knew concerning the subject, that he felt was pertinent, and he dictated this information to a stenographer of this office, who was present during the interview.

He used, in order to bring out all he knew about the subject, the following set of questions. He considered all questions in connection with this subject. Where he did not comment on some particular question as to the activity of the subject, then it is because he had no knowledge. If he recalled anything about the subject as a result of these questions he dictated what he knew. The questions are as follows:

1. Identify individual
  - a. If observed a description and other identifying data;
  - b. If not seen, enough descriptive data about individual to positively identify him or her;
  - c. Any aliases
2. Narrate how he knows individual as a Communist
  - a. If seen at a closed meeting, get date, place and persons present at meeting;
  - b. If told officially that individual was a Communist, who said it, what were the circumstances, and who was present;
  - c. Relate all occasions when he met or heard of individual as Communist.

## Documents

- a. Did individual ever write anything that might be considered Communist literature.

1. For "Daily Worker", "New Masses", "Political Affairs", any any front publications or other publications.

cc: [redacted]

M:APK/DM

EX - 83  
SE 10  
RECORDED - 113  
INDEXED - 113

100-370969 - 1

AUG 11 1950

Letter to Director

4 Fronts

Was individual active in front organizations.

a. Which organizations

b. How active was individual

5. Espionage

Was individual ever involved in secret work;

What work;

Who knew it;

Did individual ever do any special work for party.

6. Is individual still active or sympathetic toward Party.

7. Can you recall any trips abroad particularly to Russia and the approximate date of the trips? Can you recall the nature of the trips.

8. Did you ever hear that he had attended any of the training schools in Russia?

9. Did this subject appear to have entree to the Russian Consulate or did he receive special consideration and attention from known Russian Agents or Communist Officials in U.S.?

10. Is the subject working for the U.S. Government or is he affiliated in any way in Confidential Government work at this time?

11. Did this individual have military training, Abraham Lincoln Brigade, U.S. Army, other service?

12. Was this individual employed in vital industry?

13. Do you know any other members of his family who are Communists?

14. Do you know of any other activity on the part of the individual which would indicate that the individual is a concealed Communist?

Additional questions were asked as a result of his answers to the above questions in order to fully develop his information.

**Letter to Director**

Attached is a blind memorandum dictated by LOUIS F. BUDENZ and containing all the pertinent information concerning the subject which BUDENZ could presently recollect.

The original of each memo has been reviewed by Mr. BUDENZ and he has made any necessary corrections and he has signed the original. The signed original of each memo is being retained in the confidential informant file of LOUIS F. BUDENZ, [REDACTED]

Since the individuals such as the subject of this case are, according to BUDENZ, concealed Communists and since they are, in most instances, persons of some prominence, it is suggested that if the information appearing in the attached blind memo is reported, then Mr. BUDENZ should be given a temporary confidential informant symbol.

For the information of the Bureau the subject is one of the 400 concealed Communists whom BUDENZ stated he knew. The names of these concealed Communists were sent to the Bureau in the case captioned "Communist Party, USA, Internal Security - C".

OSCAR BRAND

Folk singer.

Although it is my impression that OSCAR BRAND, PETE  
SEGER and several other folk singers of that type entertained a closed  
session of the National Convention of the Communist Party in connection  
with MOTHER BLOOR'S anniversary (probably around 1944), I was first  
officially advised of BRAND'S connection with the Party in 1945. This  
report came to me through ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG and V. J. JEROME in  
connection with BRAND'S growing cooperation with EARL ROBINSON, parti-  
cularly in People's Songs.

COPIES DESTROYED  
301 APR 3 1965

ENCLOSURE

100-370969-1

Subj: Brian, Oscar

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ SUPV: \_\_\_\_\_

Misc: \_\_\_\_\_

R# \_\_\_\_\_ Date 9-21 Searcher Initial 113

*Called  
9-28*  
FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

100-370969

✓ (I) 100-357934-120, P 40; ✓

✓ (I) 100-340922-200, P 29, 63, 73; ✓

100-3-3351-P 2;

✓ 100-340922-226, P 13, 19, 20, 63;

100-350512-256, 245; ✓

✓ 100-63-594, *out to* *in file*  
*TURNER* *etc.*

65-59242-10; ✓

100-346689-4, P 2; ✓

✓ (I) 100-350776-3; ✓

100-34918-11; ✓

100-3-3068, P 50; ✓

✓ (I) 100-357934-70; ✓

100-21318-34, P 33; ✓

✓ (I) 100-346689-12; ✓

N.I. 62-68272-A, D. W. W. 307-49



SAC, New York

November 8, 1950

Director, FBI

OSCAR BRAND  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Bureau file 100-370969

Reurlet August 8, 1950.

A review of the Bureau's indices reflects that the name of Oscar Brand appears in the following New York reports:

The report of Special Agent Joseph A. Cullen entitled "PROGRESSIVE PARTY, IS - C" dated February 7, 1950 at New York (Page 40, paragraph 4 - New York file 100-94070). (100-357934-120 page 40)

The report of Special Agent Albert J. Klein entitled "COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE RADIO - TELEVISION INDUSTRY - IS-C" dated November 30, 1949 (Pages 24, 63, and 73 - New York file 100-80374). (100-340922-200 pgs. 24, 63, 73.)

The report of Special Agent Robert W. Coholan entitled "PEOPLES SONGS INCORPORATED - SECURITY MATTER-C" dated January 5, 1949 (Page 11 - New York file 100-16071). (100-346689-12 pg. 11)

The report of Special Agent Donald P. Adams entitled "PEOPLES ARTISTS INCORPORATED - IS-C" dated January 28, 1949 (Page 6 - New York file 100-81674). (100-350776-3 pg. 6)

Inasmuch as Brand has been named by Budenz as a concealed Communist, you are requested to immediately open a security investigation on Brand for the purpose of determining whether his activities warrant placing his name on the Security Index.

Tolson  
Ladd  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Nichols  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Harbo  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Tele. Room  
Nease  
Gandy

JDJ:bjc

RECORDED

100-370969-2

NOV 10 1950

Follow up 1/25/51  
Follow up 3/16/51

MAILED 9  
NOV 8 1950  
COMM - FBI

Handwritten signatures and initials, including "HAB" and "2/13/51".

51 NOV 16 1950

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, *New York* (Your file *100-99586*)DATE: *January 25, 1951*

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: *Oscar Brand**Security Matter - C**Rememo 12/8/50.*

- ( ) The deadline in this case has passed and the Bureau has not received a report. You are instructed to immediately submit a report. In the event a report has been submitted, you should make a notation of the date on which it was submitted on this letter and return it to the Bureau.

Report submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Report will be submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for delay *2-6-51*  
*Care has been unassigned due to unavailability of personnel. This has changed in very near future and handled on a priority basis.*

- ( ) Advise Bureau re status of this case.  
 ( ) Advise Bureau when report may be expected.  
 (✓) Surep immediately.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 26 1951	
FBI - NEW YORK	

(Place your reply on this form and return to the Bureau. Note on the top serial in the case file the receipt and acknowledgment of this communication.)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-61180-1

*62 MAR 26 1951 335*  
*File 100-370969*

*File*  
*SP.*  
*January 25, 1951*



**LIMITED CLASSIFICATION REVIEW**

This document was not  
reviewed in its entirety.  
Classification review was  
limited to:

<u>Page</u>	<u>Paragraph</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Paragraph</u>
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1			
7			
8			

on 5/10/79

by SP2 TAP/CA

File # 100-370969

Serial 3

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. 100-99586-LEJ

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4/9/51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/12, 13, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27/51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>HENRY C. RUDA</b>
TITLE <b>OSCAR BRAND</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject born 2/7/20, Winnipeg, Canada. Resides 300 West 12th Street, Manhattan, New York. Employed as entertainer and "folk-song" singer. Reported "concealed" Communist in 1945. Associations, as entertainer, with the CP, and Communist front organizations (CRC, IWO, ALP, People's Artists, Inc., People's Songs, Progressive Citizens of America). Other activities set forth. Background and description set out.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DECLASSIFICATION DATE 7-11-97

- P -

**DETAILS:**

At New York, New York

Birth

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised in March 1951 that OSCAR BRAND was born on February 7, 1920, at Winnipeg, Canada.

Residence

*1cc-state, c/o  
JHR-mh  
10/10/53*

DECLASSIFIED BY **6080**  
ON **7/9/77** LEO/rjg.

The current Manhattan telephone directory reflects that OSCAR BRAND, 300 West 12th Street, Manhattan, New York, subscribes to telephone number Chelsea 2-0649.

Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, advised on March 13, 1951 that OSCAR BRAND, entertainer and "folk-song"

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

*Edward Scher at*

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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- 3 - New York

*1cc 4/11/51  
4-17-51  
292*

**100-370969-3**  
**APR 11 1951**

**RECORDED - 32**  
**INDEXED - 32**  
**EX-138**

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singer, resides at 300 West 12th Street, Manhattan, New York, and subscribes to telephone number Chelsea 2-0649.

### Employment

Confidential Informant T-2 advised on March 13, 1951 that subject is employed as a musician and singer of "folk-songs" and is represented by his agent, GUNTHER LAWRENCE. This informant had no specific information as to the permanent engagements of BRAND; however, the informant stated that the subject is engaged on a free lance basis for entertainment purposes as opportunities arise.

On March 26, 1951, Miss CONSTANCE JESSELSON, Program Department, New York City Municipal Broadcasting Division, Radio Station WNYC, Municipal Building, Manhattan, New York, advised that OSCAR BRAND is currently appearing on a half-hour program of (folk) music over WNYC from 6 to 6:30 p.m., Sunday evenings. Miss JESSELSON stated that BRAND receives no remuneration for his appearances and, therefore, is not actually employed by WNYC. She said that it is her understanding that GUNTHER LAWRENCE, who writes the scripts for BRAND's WNYC program, also manages engagements for the subject.

### Communist Party Activity

#### Association with the Communist Party

The "Daily Worker" dated February 10, 1949 reflects on page 7, column 5, in an article captioned, "What's On?", the following information concerning the subject:

"OSCAR BRAND: Party, dance and variety entertainer. ... 88 Clinton Street, near Delancey, Sat. nite, February 12, 8:30. JACOB RIIS, C. P. ..."

It will be noted that the "Daily Worker" is an East Coast Communist daily newspaper.

On May 18, 1950, Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, advised that OSCAR BRAND, "folk-song" singer, was known to him as a "concealed" Communist.

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On June 30, 1950, the above informant again advised that OSCAR BRAND, singer of "folk" songs, and other individuals entertained a closed session of the National Convention of the Communist Party in connection with "Mother" BLOOR's anniversary sometime in 1944. This informant stated that this information was received by him from officials of the Communist Party in 1945 that the subject was connected with the Communist Party in 1945, in connection with BRAND's cooperation with other individuals, particularly in an organization known as People's Songs.

It will be noted that the "Daily Worker" dated July 1, 1947 states in an article that "Mother" BLOOR (ELLA REEVE BLOOR) "is the first lady of the CP and an outstanding Communist woman."

It is further to be noted that the organization known as People's Songs will be identified in another section of instant report.

In March 1951, Confidential Informant T-4, of known reliability, advised that OSCAR BRAND entertained by singing songs and playing the guitar at a rally held at the Stuyvesant Casino, 140 Second Avenue, New York City, on April 28, 1947. The above rally was held under the auspices of the Henry Forbes Club of the Communist Party.

Organizations which have been declared Communist by the Attorney General, coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835

Civil Rights Congress (CRC)

On November 25, 1947, SA D. F. CAHILL attended a street Rally of the Civil Rights Congress held at 38th Street and 7th Avenue, New York City. This meeting was sponsored by the Cutters and Dressmakers, Civil Rights Division, CRC.

Among the speakers at the above meeting was GERHARD EISLER, who, at this meeting, acknowledged that he had been a Communist for thirty years. SA CAHILL advised that OSCAR BRAND entertained and sang three songs at the above Rally.

It will be noted that Confidential Informant T-3 has advised that GERHARD EISLER was the Number One Communist in the United States.

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It will further be noted that GERHARD EISLER was convicted on charges of Exit Permit Fraud and Contempt of Congress in the District of Columbia in 1947 and fled the United States on May 5, 1949.

On December 6, 1948, Confidential Informant T-5, of known reliability, made available a pamphlet which advertised a "Folk Festival for Freedom" to be held Friday, December 10, 1948, at the Penthouse Ballroom, 13 Astor Place, New York City, under the auspices of the CRC.

The above pamphlet stated that OSCAR BRAND was scheduled to act as master of ceremonies at the above Festival.

The "Daily Worker" dated December 10, 1948 reflects an article on page 7, which article states that OSCAR BRAND acted as master of ceremonies at the "Folk Festival for Freedom" which was held under the auspices of the CRC.

#### International Workers Order (IWO)

The "Daily Worker" dated August 8, 1947 reflects an article on page 8, column 1, which article announces that BRAND would entertain at a meeting of Lodge No. 500 of the IWO.

#### Congress of American Women

Confidential Informant T-4 advised that OSCAR BRAND sang at a meeting of the Congress of American Women held at the Hotel Capitol, New York City, on March 26, 1947.

The following organization has been designated a Communist organization by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities in its report dated March 29, 1944:

#### American Labor Party

The "Daily Worker" dated March 17, 1950 reflects on page 8 an article which sets forth that OSCAR BRAND was scheduled to be an entertainer at a rally to prevent "H-bomb" destruction on the above date at the Herman Ridder Jr. High

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School, Bronx, New York, which rally was to be held under the auspices of the American Labor Party.

The following have been declared Communist front organizations by the California Committee on Un-American Activities in its 1948 report:

People's Songs, Inc.

It is to be noted that People's Songs, Inc. has been designated a Communist front organization by the California Committee on Un-American Activities in its 1948 report, page 392.

The "Daily Worker" dated April 10, 1947 reflects in an article on page 8, column 1, that People's Songs, Inc. would present "Songs from the Mine Fields" at Irving Plaza, New York City, and OSCAR BRAND was listed as one of the singers.

The "Daily Worker" dated March 17, 1948 reflects on page 13, column 3, a photograph of "People's Songsters" and included in this group was OSCAR BRAND. This article stated that the above group was putting folk songs and labor tunes in a musical background for a movie based on the May Day Parade of 1947.

The "Daily Worker" dated March 26, 1948 reflects an article on page 12, column 1, entitled, "People's Songs, Inc. Presents 'Un-American' Hootenanny" ... with a number of entertainers including OSCAR BRAND. The above affair was to be held at the Irving Plaza, 15 Irving Place, Manhattan, New York.

The May 18, 1948 issue of the "Daily Worker" reflects an article on page 13, column 4, which states in effect that People's Songs would present a Spring "Hootenanny" on May 20 at Irving Plaza. Among the individuals featured at the above affair was OSCAR BRAND.

The "Daily Worker" dated December 21, 1948 reflects on page 13, column 2, an article entitled, "Brotherhood 'Hootenanny' Xmas Eve", in which it is stated that "new and old songs of peace and brotherhood feature People's Songs



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Hootenanny, Xmas Eve, which will be presented at Irving Plaza, 15th Street and Irving Place, Friday, December 24, 1948, at 8 p.m. ... OSCAR BRAND, WNYC's 'shoeless troubadour', joins People's Songs' new singing quartet in the Yuletide celebration ..."

The "Daily Worker" dated March 6, 1949 reflects an article in Section 1, page 10, column 1, captioned, "People's Songs Presents ARTIE SHAW with String Orchestra at Carnegie Hall, 3/7/49 ..." Among the other artists appearing with SHAW on the above program was OSCAR BRAND.

On January 18, 1950, Confidential Informant T-6, of known reliability, made available a Third Anniversary Issue of a group of issues of People's Songs from April 1947 to February 1948.

The above anniversary collection reflects in the February 1948 issue of People's Songs, Inc., 126 West 21st Street, New York City, a statement on page 2 of that issue to the effect ... "The National office has been forced to close its doors for lack of funds. The staff has been instructed to meet all outstanding financial obligations to the best of their ability and to take legal steps necessary to end the functioning of the national organization ..."

Among the individuals and organizations who sent greetings to the February 1948 issue of People's Songs, Inc., as reflected on page 4 of that issue, was OSCAR BRAND.

The February-March 1948 issue of People's Songs, Inc. reflects on page 19 a full-page greeting to People's Songs from People's Artists, exclusive agency for People's Songs performers, 126 West 21st Street, New York City. The above article reflects a photograph of OSCAR BRAND, "'Barefoot' Troubadour".

People's Artists, Inc.

The above organization has been declared a Communist "front" organization by the California Committee on Un-American Activities in its 1948 report, page 392.

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On October 29, 1947, Confidential Informant T-7, of known reliability, furnished a pamphlet containing a list of artists performing for People's Artists, which furnished incidental information concerning those individuals. This article reflects that "OSCAR BRAND, produces, writes, directs and sings on his own weekly radio program. Aided by his guitar, he sings American folk and topical songs."

The April 30, 1950 issue of the "Daily Worker" reflects on page 25, column 3, that "OSCAR BRAND ... and The Balladeers" were scheduled to appear on Sunday, April 30, at 8 p.m. at the Panel Ballroom, 13 Astor Place, New York City. Tickets for the above occasion, this article reflected, could be obtained from People's Artists, 106 East 14th Street, New York City.

#### Progressive Citizens of America

The publication, "Red Channels", published by Counterattack, "the newsletter of facts to combat Communism," 55 West 42nd Street, New York, New York, reflects on page 27 that OSCAR BRAND, folk singer, acted as entertainer for the Progressive Citizens of America on March 19, 1947. According to this publication, the above was set forth on a handbill of that organization.

#### Miscellaneous Communist Party Activity

##### Progressive Party

Regarding the Progressive Party, it is to be noted that on July 19, 1949, Confidential Informant T-8, of known reliability, furnished a booklet entitled, "A Tribute to VITO MARCANTONIO", wherein the members of the National Office staff of the Progressive Party, as of April 30, 1949 were set forth. Among the members, as reflected in the above booklet, were JOHN ABT and CHARLES KRAMER. It is to be noted that JOHN ABT and CHARLES KRAMER have been identified by WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, former Communist Party member who was active in Soviet intelligence operations, in testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on August 3, 1948, as members of a Communist "underground" operating in Washington, D. C. in the 1930's.

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The above information is reflected in the August 3, 1948 issue of the "New York Times" in an article on page 1, column 1, entitled, "Red 'Underground' in Federal Posts Alleged by Editor".

On December 23, 1949, Confidential Informant T-9, of known reliability, advised that one of the officials of the Communist Party in Baltimore, Maryland, led a discussion on December 20, 1949 at an Executive Committee meeting of one of the Communist Party clubs there. The main subject of the discussion, according to the informant, was the specific assignments of various Communist Party members with particular reference to those who were working for the Progressive Party.

Confidential Informant T-10, of known reliability, advised on May 16, 1949 that a "Peace Rally" was held at Madison Square Garden, New York City, on that date, under the auspices of the Progressive Party and the Young Progressives of America. The above informant stated that the estimated attendance at this rally was between 7,500 and 8,000 people and included in the speakers for the evening was VITO MARCANTONIO, Mrs. PAUL ROBESON and OSCAR BRAND, who was introduced as a star of radio and television, who sang and played the guitar.

It is to be noted that VITO MARCANTONIO was the American Labor Party Congressman from New York in 1949.

It will further be noted that Confidential Informant T-3 has advised that PAUL ROBESON, husband of Mrs. PAUL ROBESON, was known to this informant as a "concealed" Communist in the years prior to 1945.

On June 29, 1949, Confidential Informant T-8 made available a press release concerning the "Young Progressives of America", dated June 24, 1949, which announced a dinner scheduled to be held at 13 Astor Place, New York City, on June 24. Among the entertainers for the above occasion was OSCAR BRAND.

On May 26, 1949, Confidential Informant T-8 advised that the name of OSCAR BRAND, telephone number Chelsea 2-0649, was known by this informant to be contained in a list of names of individuals and organizations who this informant believed to be Communists or Communist affiliates.

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It is to be noted that the current Manhattan telephone directory reflects that the subject subscribes to telephone number Chelsea 2-0649.

An article entitled, "Red Fronts in Radio", appeared in the October 1949 issue of "The Sign", national Catholic monthly magazine, on page 13. This article reflected that OSCAR BRAND was one of a number of singers who have been cited in public records as having been associated with Communist causes or front organizations.

The "Daily Worker" dated May 14, 1948 reflects on page 6, columns 1 and 2, an article which announces that "Ballads for Un-Americans", written by OSCAR BRAND and featuring OSCAR BRAND and others, were for sale at the Jefferson Book Shop and the Workers Book Shop.

It is to be noted that the Jefferson Book Shop, 575 6th Avenue, New York City, is associated with the Jefferson School of Social Science of that address, which has been declared a Communist organization by the Attorney General, falling within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

On July 20, 1950, Confidential Informant T-11, of unknown reliability, but who was a fellow employee of the subject and who is acquainted with the subject, advised that OSCAR BRAND has a radio program which appears over New York City Radio Station WNYC at 6 p.m. on Sunday evenings. This informant stated that the above program consisted of a rendition of folk songs. In addition, the informant stated BRAND has a radio program which appears on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. over Radio Station WABF. This informant recalled that when OSCAR BRAND was broadcasting over WNYC, the audience attending his broadcast consisted in general of young people, who the informant deemed were "radicals". The informant stated that BRAND, in his programs, would broadcast "workers' songs" which emphasized the minority problem and which, in the informant's opinion, were old-time American ballads re-written to appeal to the "masses", and which followed the Communist Party line.

The "New York Journal-American" dated September 1, 1950 reflects an article by HOWARD RUSHMORE entitled, "WNYC Screened to Bar Red Songs", in which it is stated that: "Folk singers and hill-billy specialists who have been linked with Communist front groups are being barred from municipally-owned Station WNYC, it was learned today ...

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"SEYMOUR N. SIEGEL, Director of the tax-supported station, also has instructed his staff to carefully 'screen' all programs and to eliminate songs which 'might be considered subversive.'

"Center of attention in this action is a weekly program of folk music under the direction of OSCAR BRAND, who acts as master of ceremonies on the WNYC show...

"A month ago SIEGEL ordered a recording by singer, PAUL ROBESON, cut from the BRAND program and three other singers and musicians - PETE SEEGER, WOODY GUTHRIE and SUSAN REED - who formerly appeared on the folk song show have been absent for several months.

"SEEGER, GUTHRIE and Miss REED all were members or sponsors of 'People's Songs', a group cited by the California Un-American Activities Committee as a Communist front.

"SIEGEL said he first ordered the staff to screen this and other programs more than a year ago, after the weekly anti-Communist newsletter, 'Counterattack', charged that BRAND had also supported Communist front organizations.

"I talked with BRAND and told him emphatically that WNYC wanted no part of singers or musicians who were linked to such groups,' SIEGEL told the N. Y. Journal-American.

"BRAND admitted he had appeared before the organizations named by "Counterattack", but he said he appeared only as a paid performer. He not only denied he was a Communist, but said he was opposed to Communism and was not connected with any subversive group."

"BRAND is listed by the official bulletin of People's Songs, March 1946, as a member of the Advisory Committee of the organization named a Communist front by the California Committee.

"SIEGEL said BRAND was a non-salaried master of ceremonies whose program was retained 'on a month to month basis ...'"

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The following Confidential Informants, of known reliability, had no information concerning the subject: T-12, T-13, T-14, T-15, T-16, and T-17.

#### Other Activities

##### Activities in Radio

The "Daily Worker" for October 29, 1948 reflects on page 13, columns 3 and 5, an article which, in effect, urged the readers to tune in on the subject's radio show on WNYC.

The "Daily Worker" dated May 3, 1949 reflects an article on page 13, column 3, which stated that OSCAR BRAND has been engaged by CBS to work on the folk music to be used on the next production of the CBS Documentary Unit being written by NORMAN CORWIN. According to this article, OSCAR BRAND was currently presenting the "Folk Song Festival" on Radio Station WNYC and was active on behalf of the Folk Music Section of WNBT's Americana Series.

The "Daily Worker" dated July 13, 1949, page 11, column 3, reflects an article entitled, "CORWIN's New Documentary 'Citizens of the World'", which reflects that CBS presented the new NORMAN CORWIN Documentary, "Citizens of the World", based on the work of individuals in the international organizations established by the United Nations. Among the individuals who aided in the above production was OSCAR BRAND, who contributed a song.

The "New York Times" dated June 25, 1950, page 8X, reflects that the program, "OSCAR BRAND, Folk Songs", appears on Radio Station WNYC at 6 p.m. on Sunday evenings.

The "New York Times" dated March 25, 1951 reflects on page 14X, column 7, that OSCAR BRAND would present a program of folk songs at 6 p.m. over New York City Municipal Radio Station WNYC on that date.

##### Miscellaneous Activities

The "Daily Worker" dated January 28, 1948, page 13, column 3, reflects a photograph of the subject with the caption, "OSCAR BRAND, young American Balladeer, will be



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"featured in a folk songs and blues concert to be presented at the Village Grove, 100 7th Avenue South, Friday evening, January 30, at 8:30 p.m. This will be the first in the series of informal gatherings by the Folk Song Concert Series ...."

The "Daily Worker" dated December 10, 1948 reflects on page 12, column 3, a photograph of the subject captioned, "OSCAR BRAND will emcee the 'Folk Festival for Freedom' program at the Panel Ballroom, 13 Astor Place, tonight at 8:30."

The "Daily Worker" dated December 7, 1949 reflects an advertisement on page 8, column 5, captioned, "Let's Have an Old-Fashioned Hootenanny", which was to be held on December 9, 1949 at the Penthouse, 13 Astor Place, New York City. Among the entertainers scheduled to appear at the above affair was OSCAR BRAND.

#### Background and Description

MRS. Confidential Informant T-1 advised on March 26, 1951, that OSCAR BRAND, who has resided at 300 West 12th Street, New York City, since January 9, 1947, was born February 7, 1920, at Winnipeg, Canada; that his wife, URSULA BRAND, resides with subject at that address. Informant stated that subject has Social Security Number 125-09-7362. Informant advised that subject is a member of Local 802, American Federation of Musicians, New York City. Informant could furnish no further background information and could not advise as to subject's business or professional affiliations.

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Miss CLARISSA DONAHUE, Administration Office, New York City Municipal Radio Station WNYC, Municipal Building, Manhattan, New York, advised on March 26, 1951 that OSCAR BRAND is currently featured on a one-half hour Sunday program from 6 to 6:30 p.m. Miss DONAHUE stated that GUNTHER LAWRENCE writes the script for the above show, which consists of a folk-song program.

Miss CONSTANCE JESSELSON, Program Department, New York City Municipal Broadcasting Station WNYC, advised that subject has had the above half-hour radio program on WNYC for the past several years. She stated that subject is not employed by WNYC, and BRAND does not receive remuneration for his weekly Sunday radio program over WNYC. She stated that GUNTHER LAWRENCE writes the scripts for the above program and was believed by her to have been formerly employed by WNYC.

Confidential Informant T-19, of known reliability, advised that he had no information concerning the subject.

The following description of the subject was obtained from Confidential Informants T-1 and T-20, of unknown reliability, but who is an acquaintance of the subject:

Name:	OSCAR BRAND
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Age:	31 (born February 7, 1920, Winnipeg, Canada)
Residence:	300 West 12th Street, Manhattan, New York
Height:	6'
Weight:	170 lbs.
Build:	Slim
Hair:	Dark brown (wavy)
Eyes:	Brown (wears glasses)
Occupation:	Entertainer (folk-song singer)
Marital Status:	Married
Relatives:	Wife, URSULA BRAND
Country of Birth:	Canada

- P E N D I N G -

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Confidential Informant T-4 advised that on October 15, 1940 the name of one OSCAR BRAND appeared on the membership list of the American Students Union at Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, New York.

It is to be noted that the American Students Union has been cited as a Communist front organization by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, in its report dated March 29, 1944, page 159.

On May 1, 1950, Confidential Informant T-18, of known reliability, advised that OSCAR BRAND, WNYC's "Shoeless Troubadour", was among a group of individuals scheduled to speak at a rally which was being held for the DARRELL family on April 27, 1950 at Public School 88, Bronx, New York. This informant stated that the above rally was being held to back the right of a Negro family - the DARRELL family - to live at 200 Marcy Place, Bronx, New York. Informant stated that this rally was sponsored by the Committee Against Discrimination, Sephardic Jewish Center, 122 East 169th Street, Bronx, New York.

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LEADS

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will contact Immigration and Naturalization Service, 70 Columbus Avenue, New York City, relative to any information regarding subject's citizenship status.

Will ascertain other radio employments of subject.

Will await Bureau's decision regarding FD-122 which has been submitted.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The identities of the Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of SA HENRY C. RUDA, dated at New York, April 9, 1951, are as follows:

- T-1 Mrs. GRACE GRANGER, Local 802, American Federation of Musicians, 1265 6th Avenue, Manhattan, New York City, who was contacted by the writer. Mrs. GRANGER, it will be noted, is a relative of SA JOHN C. STOKES, who requested her identity be kept confidential.
- T-2 Pretext telephone call to Chelsea 2-0649, residence of OSCAR BRAND, 300 West 12th Street, Manhattan, New York.
- T-3 LOUIS F. BUDENZ, former Managing Editor, "Daily Worker", and a Communist Party functionary until October 1945.
- T-4 Bureau of Special Services and Investigation, New York City Police Department, contacted by SA AUGUST J. MICEK.
- T-5 [REDACTED]
- T-6 [REDACTED], who made available information in the form of a group of issues of "People's Songs" to SA's BENJAMIN O. CANTY and WILLIAM W. STICKIE, which information is available in the files of the New York Office.
- T-7 [REDACTED]
- T-8 [REDACTED]

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS (Cont'd)

T-9 Baltimore Confidential Informant [redacted], who made the information available to SA JESSE C. PARKER, JR., as set forth in Baltimore letter to the Bureau dated December 30, 1949.

T-10 [redacted]

T-11 FRANK PULASKI, 240 Sullivan Street, New York City, radio and television actor, and formerly staff announcer, WNYC, New York, who was interviewed by SA ALBERT J. KLEIN.

T-12 [redacted] contacted by SA EDWARD W. BUCKLEY.

T-13 [redacted] contacted by SA EDWARD W. BUCKLEY.

T-14 [redacted] contacted by SA RICHARD T. CLANCY.

T-15 [redacted] contacted by SA RICHARD T. CLANCY.

T-16 [redacted] contacted by SA RICHARD T. CLANCY.

T-17 [redacted] contacted by SA RICHARD T. CLANCY.

T-18 [redacted] contacted by SA RICHARD H. BLASSER.

T-19 [redacted] who made the information available to SA CHARLES A. DONELAN.

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)



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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS (Cont'd)

T-20

CONSTANCE JESSELSON, Program Department, New York City Municipal Radio, WNYC, Municipal Building, Manhattan, New York, who was contacted by the writer and who requested her identity be kept confidential with regard to certain information furnished.

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to New York, 11/8/50.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: April 9, 1951

FROM : SAC, NY

SUBJECT: OSCAR BRAND  
SM-C  
(Bufile 100-370969)

Card Filed  
4-20-51 etc

X It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above captioned individual.

The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME OSCAR BRAND

ALIASES

RACE White SEX Male NATIVE BORN NATURALIZED ALIEN

COMMUNIST X SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify)

TAB FOR DETCOM TAB FOR COMSAB

DATE OF BIRTH 2/7/20 PLACE OF BIRTH Winnipeg, Canada

RESIDENCE ADDRESS 300 West 12th Street, Manhattan, New York

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address)

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Strategic and Vital Industry List)

NONE RECORDED - 327 100 - 370969 - 3

APR 11 1951

Encs. (5)

HCR:LEJ  
100-99586

66 APR 20 1951

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. **100-99586** PMC:ASR

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>9/27/51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7/23; 8/11, 21, 29; 9/6-8, 12/51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>HENRY C. RUDA</b>
TITLE <b>CHANGED:</b> <b>OSCAR STANLY BRAND, wa. Oscar Brown</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject has derivative citizenship through father's naturalization, 3/23/37, EDNY. BRAND continues in non-remunerative position as master of ceremonies for WNYC's "Folksong Festival" and is employed as a "free lance" radio and television entertainer through his agent, GUNTHER LAWRENCE, 47 West 63rd St., NYC. Subject associated with following Communist organizations: "People's Artists, Inc." in 1949; "Young People's Records, Inc." in 1947 to 1950; "Young Progressives of America" in 1949; "Distributive Workers Union" in 1951. Public protest in press regarding entertainers linked with Communist fronts appearing on subject's WNYC program set out. BRAND reported acquainted with Mrs. LOUISE SARANT, wife of ALFRED SARANT, alleged Soviet espionage agent affiliated with JULIUS ROSENBERG. No criminal record at NYC.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DECLASSIFIED DATE 7-9-77 b7D

*Photo #20*  
CC TO: *9/10/62*  
REQ. REC'D  
SEP 13 1962  
ANS.  
BY: *[Signature]*

*cc pp 14, 12*  
*per [unclear]*  
*mb 1/2/52*

*cc DR*  
*1/4/52*  
*703/14*

*1cc - State*  
*3DR - m*  
*100-100127/53*

DECLASSIFIED BY **6080 - C**  
ON **7/9/77** LED/cg

AGENCY *100-100127*  
REQ. REC'D *8-11-60*  
REP'T FORW. *8-25-60*  
BY *[Signature]*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

*Edward Scheidt*

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

**100-370969-4**

**COPIES OF THIS REPORT**

**5 - Bureau (100-370969)**

**3 - New York**

**65 JAN 7 1962**  
*100-100127*

**DEC 14 1951**

**RECORDED**  
**INDEXED**  
**8/17/87**

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**STAT. SECT.**

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DETAILS: The title of this report is being marked "Changed" so as to reflect the full name of the subject, OSCAR STANLY BRAND, as reflected in the records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 70 Columbus Avenue, New York City, and the name, OSCAR BROWN, inasmuch as the subject is professionally known by that name according to the records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York.

#### CITIZENSHIP

The files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 70 Columbus Avenue, New York City, reflect on petition, No. 219963, filed with the Eastern District Court, Brooklyn, New York, that ISIDORE ZANGWILL BRAND, 4914 13th Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, became a naturalized United States citizen on March 23, 1937. According to these records, ISIDORE BRAND was born on September 15, 1884, at Botosani, Roumania; he married BEATRICE E. ZINKOFF on December 24, 1911, at Winnipeg, Canada, and had the following children born in Canada:

~~MRS. ISIDORE ZANGWILL BRAND~~

EDITH BRAND, born November 1, 1912.

HARRY LEON BRAND, born March 28, 1916.

OSCAR STANLY BRAND, born February 7, 1920.

It is further reflected in the above records that ISIDORE BRAND became a Canadian citizen in 1907, and entered the United States for permanent residence at Noyes, Minnesota, on September 21, 1923.

#### EMPLOYMENT

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, reported on August 29, 1951, that the subject is the acting master of ceremonies on the New York radio station, WNYC, in a program which is heard every Sunday evening and entitled "Folksong Festival". The above informant stated that BRAND received no remuneration for this employment, however, the informant added that subject was a "free lance" radio and television entertainer who obtained his employment through his agent, GUNTHER LAWRENCE, 47 West 63rd Street, New York City.

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The informant added that BRAND was believed to have some radio and television contracts for Autumn, 1951.

COMMUNIST FRONT AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

People's Artists, Inc.

People's Artists, Inc., was cited as a Communist front organization by the California Committee on Un-American Activities in its 1948 report on page 392.

On February 25, 1949, Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, made available information obtained from monitoring the bank account of People's Artists, Inc., New York City. The above informant made available the following information regarding funds which the subject received from that organization:

<u>Date of Check</u>	<u>Check No.</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Bank Cashed at</u>
2/3/49	663	OSCAR BRAND	\$21.75	Manufacturers' Trust Company
2/14/49	668	OSCAR BRAND	\$30.45	Manufacturers' Trust Company

Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, also made information available obtained from monitoring the bank account of People's Artists, Inc., New York City, which information reflects funds received by the subject during March and April, 1949.

<u>Date of Check</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Bank Cashed at</u>
3/11/49	OSCAR BRAND	\$47.85	Manufacturers' Trust Company
4/11/49	OSCAR BRAND	\$26.50	Manufacturers' Trust Company

The above information made available by Confidential Informants T-2 and T-3 is not to be made public except through the usual procedure following the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum.

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YOUNG PROGRESSIVES OF AMERICA

Confidential Informants T-12 and T-13, both of known reliability, have advised that the Communist Party has urged its members on various occasions to support the Young Progressives of America.

In August, 1948 Confidential Informant T-14, of known reliability, reported that the Young Progressive Citizens of America formally merged with and became the "backbone" of the Young Progressives of America in July, 1948 at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The Progressive Citizens of America was cited as a "new and broader Communist front in the entire United States" formed in September, 1946, at the direction of "Communist steering committees" from the "Communist-dominated National Citizens Political Action Committee" and the "Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions", by the California Committee on Un-American Activities in its 1948 report, page 354.

On June 22, 1949, Confidential Informant T-4, of known reliability, made available information reflecting that the Young Progressives of America were planning to hold a testimonial dinner for PETER SEEGER on June 24, 1949, at 13 Astor Place, New York City. The above informant stated that OSCAR BRAND was one of a group of individuals who was listed as an entertainer for the occasion.

Confidential Informant T-5, of known reliability, advised on June 30, 1950 that PETER SEEGER was a member of the Communist Party in 1945. The informant obtained this information from ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG and from V. J. JEROME. This informant described TRACHTENBERG as an official of the Communist Party and V. J. JEROME as another Communist Party member.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S RECORDS, INC.

The Young People's Records, Inc., was cited as a Communist front organization by the California Committee on Un-American Activities in its 1948 report, pages 390 to 392.

On March 15, 1951, Confidential Informant T-6, of known reliability, advised that OSCAR BRAND had been writing an almanac series of records for Young People's Records, Inc.

Confidential Informant T-7, of known reliability, also reported that OSCAR BRAND had lent his efforts in connection with the following records of the above organization:

\* RADIO INDUSTRY  
OSCAR STANLEY BRAND EMPL. BY STATION WNYC  
EMPL. C.O.



NY 100-99586

"Let's All Join In" - September, 1947.  
"May American Almanac" - May, 1948.  
"December American Almanac" - December, 1948.  
"August American Almanac" - August, 1949.  
"November American Almanac" - November, 1949.  
"January American Almanac" - January, 1950.

Other Communist Activities

On April 5, 1951, Confidential Informant T-8, of known reliability, advised that OSCAR BRAND was presently engaged on the New York City radio station, WNYC, as a featured artist on a folksong program.

This informant stated that OSCAR BRAND was said to be a Communist Party member in "Party" circles.

According to the above informant, the subject was active in supporting the past presidential campaign of HENRY WALLACE and BRAND also appeared from time to time on the "Nightclub programs" of Local 65 of the "Distributive Trades Union" at 131 Hester Place, New York City.

The "C.I.O. News", published by the Congress of Industrial Organizations for February 20, 1950, page 6, column one, reflects that the C.I.O. Executive Board had expelled the United Office and Professional Workers of America from the Congress of Industrial Organizations effective March 1, 1950, for "consistent, unwavering support of the Communist Party". The board acted on a report by a committee which found that "never in the history of the UOPWA has any policy been adopted which in any way runs counter to the policies of the Communist Party or the interests of the Soviet Union as those interests are reflected in the program of the Communist Party".

According to the October 22, 1950, issue of the "Union Voice", the UOPWA had merged with the "Distributive Workers Union (DWU) and "Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers" (FTAAW) in which a new union to be known as the "Distributive, Processing and Office Workers of America."

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This merger took place at the founding convention of the new union held at New York City on October 7, 1950.

*"U" per NAVY LTR 3/21/88*  
*9/18/89*  
*JS*  
*FOIA#*  
*56,261*  
Confidential Informant T-9, of known reliability, has advised that Local 65 of the Distributive Workers Union is a Communist run national union made up of the Communist Party line locals which seceded from the Retail, Wholesale, and Department Store Union, CIO, in the fall of 1948.

In connection with another investigation, Bureau agents on July 19, 1950, interviewed ALFRED SARANT, Cayaga Heights Road, RFD 1, Ithaca, New York, and his wife and on that date SARANT executed a waiver authorizing Bureau agents to conduct a search of his residence at that address. In connection with this search a Bates List Finder was located and among the names, addresses of concerns, and telephone numbers of individuals in the New York City area that appeared in the above list finder was the following: "BRAND, OSCAR".

*Mr. & Mrs.*  
Mrs. LOUISE ~~SARANT~~, the wife of ~~ALFRED SARANT~~, was also interviewed on the above date at her residence and she stated that OSCAR BRAND is a folk song singer whom she met through BETTY SANDERS, a friend of hers, who is also a folk song singer.

The "Daily Worker", an east coast Communist daily newspaper, dated April 4, 1948, Section 1, page 10, column 4, reflects an advertisement which indicated that "People's Songs", Brooklyn, New York, was presenting a program entitled "Songs for Action" at the St. Felix Street Playhouse and among those scheduled to perform was BETTY SANDERS.

People's Songs, Inc., has been designated a Communist front organization by the California Committee on Un-American Activities in its 1948 report, page 392.

On July 10, 1951, Confidential Informant T-10, of unknown reliability, but who is in a position to have certain information, advised that JULIUS ~~ROSENBERG~~, had confided to this informant that ALFRED SARANT was a "member of his organization". The above informant understood this quoted phrase to mean that SARANT was a Soviet espionage agent and was affiliated with the Rosenberg Soviet espionage apparatus.

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It is to be noted that JULIUS ROSENBERG was sentenced to the death penalty on April 5, 1951, for conspiracy to commit espionage.

ALFRED SARANT, on August 9, 1951, according to information furnished by Mr. DONALD HAYNS, Tuscon, Arizona, fled the United States.

Confidential Informant T-10 had further advised that ALFRED SARANT is currently believed to be in Europe.

The "Journal American" dated August 6, 1951, contains an article by HOWARD RUSHMORE entitled "Loyalty Probers Turn to WNYC" in which is stated in part as follows:

"Frequent appearance of entertainers linked with Communist front groups on municipally owned radio station WNYC is being probed by Senate Committee investigators, it was learned today.

"Testimony has been given before executive sessions of the Senate Sub Committee on Internal Security concerning the tax supported station and particularly a folk song program headed by OSCAR BRAND.

"Witnesses told the Senate Investigators the Communist Party for years had utilized such folk song programs to feature Red entertainers and songs which carried the party line in their lyrics.

"BRAND, who has appeared before Communist branch meetings as an entertainer, had TONY KRABER as his guest of honor on last night's 'Folk Song Festival' on WNYC.

"KRABER was introduced by BRAND as a 'CBS executive' whose hobby is 'revolutionary war songs'. A witness testified recently before a Senate sub committee here that KRABER over a period of 10 years had been connected with such Communist fronts as the American League for Peace and Democracy, American Writers Congress, Jefferson School, Peoples Songs and the Theatre Arts Committee.

"BRAND has acknowledged that he appeared before Communist and pro-Communist front groups but according to SEYMOUR N. SEIGEL, WNYC Director, BRAND has denied being a Communist.

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The "Daily Compass" dated August 7, 1951, contains an article entitled "McCarran Detects Something Revolting in Songs on City Radio" in which it is stated that the American Internal Security Committee is investigating allegations of subversive infiltration in the radio industry. According to this article "OSCAR BRAND, who conducts 'Folksong Festival' every Sunday night at 6 over WNYC, was under brisk discussion during recent meetings of a McCarran subcommittee here....."

The above article further stated that TONY KRABER, who is associate director of special events in the News Department of the Columbia Broadcasting System, appeared on subject's recent radio program as a guest artist. It is further obtained from the article that KRABER has recently published a record album of American Revolutionary War Songs.

The "Journal American" dated August 7, 1951, contains an article entitled "Protest Leftists on City's Radio" in which is stated in part as follows:

"An anti-Communist committee of veterans and civic leaders today asked Mayor Impellitteri to investigate appearance of entertainers linked with Communist fronts on tax-supported radio station WNYC....."

"The New York Journal American revealed yesterday that OSCAR BRAND, master of ceremonies for WNYC's 'Folksong Festival' had as his guest of honor on last Sunday's broadcast a guitar player named TONY KRABER."

Regarding TONY KRABER, it is to be noted that the "Daily Worker" dated September 11, 1947, page 8, reflects that TONY KRABER, guitar player, was an entertainer for People's Songs.

The "Daily Worker" dated May 7, 1948, page 8, reflects TONY KRABER was an entertainer for the American League for Peace and Democracy.

The American League for Peace and Democracy has been declared a Communist organization by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. The organization known as People's Songs has been previously identified in this report.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Confidential Informant T-11, of known reliability, advised on August 29, 1951, that the files of the Payroll Department, Radio Station WCBS, 485 Madison Avenue, New York City, contain no record of any previous employment of OSCAR BRAND with that radio station.

Miss HOPE TRAVIS, personnel director, Radio Station WNBC, 20 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City, advised on August 29, 1951, that no record of any past employment of the subject could be located in the files of this company.

The records of the Bureau of Marriage Licenses, New York City, reflect on certificate No 24164, that OSCAR S. BRAND, 39 East 10th Street, New York City, was married to ~~URSULA J. BRENNAN~~ <sup>URSULA J. BRENNAN</sup> 39 East 10th Street, New York City, on September 23, 1945, at New York City.

~~MRS. OSCAR S. BRAND~~

According to these records, the subject stated that he was born on February 7, 1920, at Winnipeg, Canada; that he was employed as a writer for the United States Army; that this was his first marriage; and that his father, ISIDORE Z. BRAND, was born in Roumania and his mother, BEATRICE SCHULMAN Brand had been born in Russia.

Subject's wife stated on these records that she was born on March 27, 1920, in New York City; that she was employed as a secretary and that her father THOMAS A. BRENNAN, and her mother, GLADYS M. MAC, had both been born in the United States. The subject and his wife both indicated on these records that neither had been married before.

~~MRS. THOMAS A. BRENNAN~~

The files of the Board of Election Records, New York City, reflect that in 1950, OSCAR BRAND, 300 West 12th Street, New York City, registered in that election stating that he was 30 years of age, married, that he resided 16 years in the State, and that he had been born in Canada.

It was further reflected in these records that the subject's wife, ~~URSULA BRAND~~ <sup>MRS. URSULA BRAND</sup>, of the above address also registered for the 1950 election stating that she was married, that she had resided in the state and city for 21 plus years, and that she was 21 plus years of age.

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According to these records the subject and his wife registered in the 1947, 1948, 1949, and 1950 elections, both indicating a preference for one of the major political parties.

The records of the Credit Bureau of New York City, which were checked by SA GORDON C. LUND, reflect that OSCAR BRAND, 300 West 12th Street, Apartment 3-H, has a satisfactory credit rating and that he is employed in a non-remunerative position with the New York City radio station, WNYC, at the Municipal Building, New York City.

According to these records, the subject previously resided at 39 East 10th Street, New York City; his wife is a photographers model registered with John Robert Powers Agency, New York City, and the subject maintains a bank account in the Marine Midland Bank, 130 Chambers Street, New York City. It was further reflected on these records that the subject is also known professionally by the name of OSCAR BROWN.

The Criminal Division of the New York City Police Department, which was checked by SA AUGUST J. MICEK, reflected no record of the subject.

- C L O S E D -

ADMINISTRATIVE

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

Confidential Informant mentioned in the report of  
SA HENRY C. RUDA, New York, dated SEP 27 1951, are as  
follows:

- T-1 Pretext telephone call made to GUNTHER  
LAWRENCE, artists representative, 47 West  
63rd Street, New York City; telephone number  
Susquehanna 7-5070, made by the writer.
- T-2 W. HALLEM, operations officer, Manufacturers'  
Trust Company, 130 Fifth Avenue, New York  
City, who made the information available  
to SA CHRISTOPHER J. MORAN.
- T-3 WILLIAM MORGAN, assistant manager, Manufacturers'  
Trust Company, 130 Fifth Avenue, New York  
City, who made the information available  
to SA CHRISTOPHER J. MORAN.
- T-4
- T-5 LOUIS BUDENZ, former Communist Party  
member and former managing editor of the  
"Daily Worker", who is at the present time  
an assistant professor at Fordham University,  
New York City. Mr. BUDENZ was interviewed  
by SA WILLIAM J. MCCARTHY.

T-6  
New York



T-7



NY 100-99586

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

ADMINISTRATIVE (cont'd.)

- for per name  
for 3/1/84*
- T-8 [redacted] who furnished information to  
SA EDWARD W. BUCKLEY.
- T-9 DIO, Third Naval District, New York City.
- T-10 [redacted] who was interviewed by SA JOHN A.  
HARRINGTON and SA ROBERT F. ROYAL.
- T-11 A pretext telephone call made by the writer  
to Miss MARY GAGNAN, payroll Department,  
WCBS, 485 Madison Ave., New York City.
- T-12 [redacted] contacted by SA CHARLES  
F. HEINER.
- T-13 [redacted] contacted by SA RICHARD H. BLASSER.
- T-14 [redacted] contacted by SA ARTHUR E. DOOLEY.

IDENTITY OF SE's

The records of INS, 70 Columbus Avenue, New York  
City, were checked by SE ROBERT M. HALL.

The files of the Board of Elections, New York City,  
were checked by SE CLINTON E. POLLOCK.

REFERENCE

Report of SA HENRY C. RUDA, New York, 4/9/51.



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. 100-99586

PMC

<b>REPORT MADE AT</b> NEW YORK	<b>DATE WHEN MADE</b> SEP 27 1951	<b>PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE</b> 7/23; 8/11, 21, 29; 9/6-8, 12/51	<b>REPORT MADE BY</b> HENRY C. RUDA
<b>TITLE</b> Changed: OSCAR STANLEY BRAND, wa: Oscar Brown			<b>CHARACTER OF CASE</b> SECURITY MATTER - C
<b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b>  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 20%;"> <p><i>yes</i></p> <p><i>No summary until corrected papers received - FZ</i></p> <p><i>10/22/57</i></p> <p><i>Det N.Y. FBI, LHM</i></p> </div> <div style="width: 60%;"> <p>Subject has derivative citizenship through father's naturalization, 3/23/27, EDNY. BRAND continues in non-remunerative position as master of ceremonies for WNYC's "Folksong Festival" and is employed as a "free lance" radio and television entertainer through his agent, GUNTHER LAWRENCE, 47 West 63rd St., NYC. Subject associated with following Communist organizations: "People's Artists, Inc." in 1949; "Young People's Records, Inc." in 1947 to 1950; "Progressive Citizens of America" in 1949; "Distributive Workers Union" in 1951. Public protest in press regarding entertainers linked with Communist fronts appearing on subject's WNYC program set out. BRAND reported acquainted with Mrs. LOUISE SARANT, wife of ALFRED SARANT, alleged Soviet espionage agent affiliated with JULIUS ROSENBERG. No criminal record at NYC.</p> </div> <div style="width: 15%; text-align: right;"> <p><i>2-1, 3, 9</i></p> <p><i>W</i></p> </div> </div>			
- C -			
<p><i>100-11406</i></p> <p><i>Reviewed page 1, 6</i></p> <p><i>Page 1, 6 - are unclassified</i></p> <p><i>3042 PWT</i></p> <p><b>RECORDED</b></p> <p><b>INDEXED</b></p>			
<b>APPROVED AND FORWARDED:</b> <i>Edward Scheidt</i>			
<b>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</b>			
5 Bureau (100-370969)		3 New York	
OCT 1 1951		SE 25	

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Progressive Citizens of America.

The Progressive Citizens of America was cited as a "new and broader Communist front in the entire United States" formed in September, 1946, at the direction of "Communist steering committees" from the "Communist-dominated National Citizens Political Action Committee" and the "Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions", by the California Committee on Un-American Activities in its 1948 report, page 354.

On June 22, 1949, Confidential Informant T-4, of known reliability, made available information reflecting that the Young Progressives of America were planning to hold a testimonial dinner for PETER SEEGER on June 24, 1949, at 13 Astor Place, New York City. The above informant stated that OSCAR BRAND was one of a group of individuals who was listed as an entertainer for that occasion.

Confidential Informant T-5, of known reliability, advised on June 30, 1950, that PETER SEEGER was a member of the Communist Party in 1945. The informant obtained this information from ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG and from V. J. JEROME. This informant described TRACHTENBERG as an official of the Communist Party and V. J. JEROME as another Communist Party member.

Young People's Records, Inc.

Young People's Records, Inc., was cited as a Communist front organization by the California Committee on Un-American Activities in its 1948 report, pages 390 to 392.

On March 15, 1951, Confidential Informant T-6, of known reliability, advised that OSCAR BRAND had been writing an almanac series of records for Young People's Records, Inc.

Confidential Informant T-7, of known reliability, also reported that OSCAR BRAND had lent his efforts in connection with the following records of the above organization:

~~X~~ RADIO INDUSTRY  
OSCAR Stanley BRAND EMPLOYED BY STATION WNYC  
(EMPL. CARD)

NY 100-99586

ADMINISTRATIVE (cont'd.)

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS (cont'd.)

- T-8 [ ] who furnished information to  
SA EDWARD W. BUCKLEY.
- T-9 DIO, Third Naval District, New York City.
- T-10 [ ] who was interviewed by SA JOHN A.  
HARRINGTON and SA ROBERT F. ROYAL.
- T-11 A pretext telephone call made by the writer  
to Miss MARY GAGNAN, payroll department,  
WCBS, 485 Madison Avenue, New York City.

IDENTITY OF SPECIAL EMPLOYEES

The Records of Immigration and Naturalization Service  
70 Columbus Avenue, New York City, were checked by SE ROBERT  
M. HALL.

The files of the Board of Elections Records, New York  
City, were checked by SE CLINTON E. POLLACK.

REFERENCE

Report of SA HENRY C. RUDA, New York, 4/9/51.

SAC, New York (100-99586)

October 22, 1951

Director, FBI

OSCAR STANLY BRAND, wa.  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Bufile 100-370969 - *if*

RECORDED - 139

EX-78

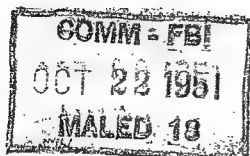
Re report of Special Agent Henry C. Ruda dated September 27, 1951.

It is noted that the synopsis of referenced report reflects that the subject's father was naturalized on 3-23-27 whereas the details of the report reflect his naturalization as 3-23-37. The Bureau should be advised which of these dates is correct.

On page 4 of referenced report the Progressive Citizens of America is cited and thereafter information concerning the Young Progressives of America is set out. The information concerns two separate organizations and, therefore, you are requested to make the appropriate changes so that the report will be correct. Corrected pages should be submitted to the Bureau and the copies of this report maintained in your office should be corrected accordingly.

*Followed  
12-20-51  
FCZ/er*

FCZ:hlm *him*



OCT 25 4 52 PM '51  
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE  
F B I  
RECEIVED-WVIG ROOM

*100-99586*  
NOV 1 1951

*203  
F-2*

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

*ES* to : Director, FBI (100-370969)

DATE: December 12, 1951

*gnt* FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: OSCAR STANLY BRAND, wa.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

*Ly*  
*my* ReBulet New York, 10/22/51, and rerep SA HENRY C.  
RUDA, New York, 9/27/51.

Enclosed herewith are corrected copies of pages 1, 4 and 12 of rerep. These pages have already been substituted in the New York file copies and it is requested that the Bureau replace these pages in their copies of instant report.

Encls. - 15

*15 ENCL*  
*117*  
EX - 67

*Det + Subst ser 4 -*  
*uh 1/2/52*

HCR:ASR  
100-99586

RECORDED - 117

DEC 14 1951

EX - 67

DEC 14 1951  
FBI  
RECEIVED  
DEC 14 1951

*Five*  
*confidential*

62 JAN 4 1952

FBI  
RECEIVED  
10 12 AM '52

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-370969)

DATE: February 5, 1952

FROM : SAC, New York (100-99586)

SUBJECT: OSCAR BRAND  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Card U.T.D.

3-6-52 *et*

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X

The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME Master Name Oscar Stanley Brand  
ALIASES Oscar Brown <sup>301</sup> F.C.Z.  
master vs.

NATIVE BORN \_\_\_\_\_ NATURALIZED X <sup>F.L.</sup> ALIEN \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNIST \_\_\_\_\_ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY \_\_\_\_\_ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE \_\_\_\_\_

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

TAB FOR DETCOM 56 AM 52 TAB FOR COMSAB \_\_\_\_\_ RACE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) Master of Ceremonies,

"Folk Song Festival" WNYC, Municipal Bldg, NY, NY. and Free Lance Entertainer -

thru Agent - Gunther Lawrence, 47 West 63rd Street, NYC

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Vital Facility List) \_\_\_\_\_

RESIDENCE ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

HCR:mat

RECORDED

100-370969-6

EX-125

FEB. 7 1952

13

FIVE

Ackd

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-370969)

FROM *JB* SAC, New York (100-99586)

SUBJECT: OSCAR STANLY BRAND wa;  
S.M. - C

DATE: 4/2/53

*Card U.I.D.  
4/4/53*

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X

The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ALIASES \_\_\_\_\_

FBI STATISTICAL SECTION

APR 10 8 32 AM '53

CARDS PREPARED

NATIVE BORN \_\_\_\_\_ NATURALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ ALIEN \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNIST \_\_\_\_\_ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY \_\_\_\_\_ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE \_\_\_\_\_

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

TAB FOR DETCOM \_\_\_\_\_ TAB FOR COMSAB \_\_\_\_\_ RACE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) \_\_\_\_\_

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Vital Facility List) \_\_\_\_\_

RESIDENCE ADDRESS Plum Point Hotel, New Windsor, New York

Also maintains apartment at 300 W. 12th Street, New York, New York

CBF:LR

*77* APR 16 1953

100-370969

NOT RECORDED  
20 APR 3 1953

*Referred to Leonhart*

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-370969)  
 FROM : SAC, New York (100-99586)  
 SUBJECT: OSCAR STANLY BRAND, wa  
 SM-C

DATE: 10/16/53

Card U.T.D.  
11-9-53"UNAVAILABLE SECTION"

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ALIASES \_\_\_\_\_

NATIVE BORN \_\_\_\_\_ NATURALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ ALIEN \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNIST \_\_\_\_\_ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY \_\_\_\_\_ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE \_\_\_\_\_

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) Out of Country \_\_\_\_\_

TAB FOR DETCOM \_\_\_\_\_ TAB FOR COMSAB \_\_\_\_\_ RACE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) \_\_\_\_\_

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Vital Facility List) \_\_\_\_\_

RESIDENCE ADDRESS c/o Hotel De La-Vigne  
 1 Rue Casimire La Vigne  
 Paris 6, France

NOT RECORDED

7 OCT 19 1953

CBF:EMM

58 NOV 12 1953



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-370969)

DATE: 10/13/53

FROM : SAC, New York (100-99586)

SUBJECT: OSCAR STANLEY BRAND, was:

Oscar Brown

SM-C

OSCAR STANLEY BRAND

This is to advise that the subject telephone answering service (PL 7-6000) advised on 10/9/53 that the subjects forwarding address from 10/6 to 11/7/53 in c/o Hotel De La-Vigne, 1 Rue Casiniive La Vigne, Paris 6, France.

Mr. WILLIAM LANE, Pan American Airways, New York City, whose name should be kept confidential, advised on 10/9/53 that the subject, OSCAR S. BRAND, Newburgh, New York had departed from the United States via Pan American Airways, Flight #070 at 1 pm on 10/9/53 from NY International Airport, NYC, for London, England and that he has a roundtrip ticket, however, he had no return reservation.

It is noted that the subject is the subject of a security index card maintained by the New York Office.

Washington Field Office is requested to place a stop with the United States Customs Service so that this office may be notified when the subject returns to the United States.

For the information of the Washington Field Office the subject was born 2/7/20 at Winnipeg, Canada and was naturalized in the Eastern District Court, Brooklyn, NY on 3/23/37. He is a "free lance" radio and television entertainer and was last employed as Master of Ceremonies at radio station, WNYC, Municipal Building, NYC. Subject is 33 years old, 5'11", 180 pounds, dark curly hair and wears glasses.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-24-81 BY 6326/1/8/pt

2- Washington Field Office

CBF:ACK

RECORDED - 82  
INDEXED - 82 SE 48

EX-127

100-370969-7  
OCT 15 1953  
RECEIVED  
FBI NEW YORK

Lth Stat  
11-10-53  
TDR

100-370969-7

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

RECORDED - 82

Date: November 10, 1953

EX-126

To: Mr. Dennis A. Flinn  
Director  
Office of Security  
Department of State  
515 - 22nd Street, Northwest  
Washington, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover - Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: OSCAR STANLEY BRAND  
SECURITY MATTER - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-24-81 BY SP3DB/KJ

Information has been received to the effect that the above-captioned individual, the subject of a security investigation by this Bureau, departed via Pan American Airways, Flight Number 070 on October 9, 1953, from the New York International Airport, New York, New York, en route to London, England.

I am enclosing for your information one copy each of the following reports reflecting the results of an investigation conducted of Brand by this Bureau:

Report of Special Agent Henry C. Ruda  
dated April 9, 1951, at New York.

Report of Special Agent Henry C. Ruda  
dated September 27, 1951, at New York.

I would appreciate the receipt of any information that may come to your attention regarding Brand's activities while traveling abroad.

Enclosure

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Gearty \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

2cc - Legal Attache, (w/enclosure)  
London, England

2cc - Legal Attache (w/enclosure)  
Paris, France

cc - Foreign Service Desk

63 NOV 13 1953

PDR: g18

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080  
ON 7/9/77 LEO/rjg

AIR COURIER

BY SPL. MSGR. 121  
63 NOV 12 1953  
COMM - FBI

2cc - Director (w/enclosure)  
Central Intelligence Agency  
2430 E Street, Northwest  
Washington, D. C.

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Attention: Deputy Director, Plans

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

REPORT MADE AT Washington, D.C.	DATE WHEN MADE 11-16-53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/29; 11/2/53	REPORT MADE BY JAG SE LAWRENCE A. CONDATORE
TITLE OSCAR STANLEY BRAND, wa. Oscar Brown			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

AGENCY 100-4517  
REQ. REC'D 8-11-60  
REP'T FORW. 9-25-60  
BY Bugby

CC TO: Hew  
REQ. REC'D 9/10/62  
ANS. SEP 13 1962  
BY: Kms

Subject obtained Passport Number 61554 on March 30, 1953, for purpose of traveling to France, Italy and England collecting material to be used in articles he intended to prepare for "The Saturday Review."

cc-DR  
11-30-53  
TDR/u

RUC

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF Declassification  
DATE 7-11-77 Bgc

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

The files of the Passport Office, United States Department of State, reviewed by Special Employee C. GILMORE SNOWDEN on October 29, 1953, disclosed that OSCAR STANLEY BRAND was issued Passport Number 61554 on March 30, 1953, for a proposed four weeks travel to France, Italy and England for the purpose of collecting folk music for magazine articles and concerts. In his Passport file appears a letter from BRAND dated March 23, 1953, stating that the survey would be used for articles he intended to prepare for "The Saturday Review."

Subject stated in his Passport application dated March 23, 1953, at New York City, that he intended to

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391 MAR 29 1963

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080  
ON 7/9/77 LED/cja

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <b>COPY IN FILE</b>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <u>100-370969-8</u>	RECORDED-38
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (100-370969) 3 - New York (100-99586) (RM) 2 - Washington Field (100-28506) <b>62 DEC 1 1953</b>		NOV 17 1953	INDEXED-38

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-58256-2

WFO 100-28506

depart on or about April 29, 1953, from the International Airport, New York City, aboard the British Overseas Airlines. In this Passport application the subject listed his mailing address and permanent residence as Plum Point, New Windsorn, New York.

In his passport file the subject stated he immigrated to the United States in 1923 at New York City, residing continuously from 1923 to 1953 in New York City and derived citizenship through the naturalization of his father, ISIDORE ZANGWILL BRAND, on March 23, 1937, at Brooklyn, New York, under Certificate Number 4147595.

In regard to the subject's parents the application indicates his father is ISIDORE ZANGWILL BRAND, born Romania, and his mother is BEATRICE BRAND, born in Russia, both residing at 1322 - 44th Street, Brooklyn, New York. *Romanian. Russian.*

BRAND listed his former wife, URSULA BRENNAN BRAND who was born March 27, 1920, at New York City and who resides at 39 East 10th Street, New York City, and whom he married on September 23, 1945. According to the application this marriage was annulled in December, 1952. MRS. OSCAR STANLEY BRAND *NY*

Witness to this Passport was GINNY MAYHEW who is not related to the subject and resides at 5 Charles Street, New York City.

The following description was obtained from the subject's Passport application:

Sex:	Male
Date of Birth:	February 7, 1920
Place of Birth:	Winnipeg, Canada
Height:	6' 1"
Eyes:	Brown
Hair:	Black
Occupation:	Writer - entertainer
Marks:	Birthmark near left eye.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

REPORT MADE AT Washington, D.C.	DATE WHEN MADE 11-16-53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/29/11/2/53	REPORT MADE BY JAG SA LAWRENCE A. CONDATORE
TITLE OSCAR STANLEY BRAND, wa. Cesar Brown			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject obtained Passport Number 61554 on March 30, 1953, for purpose of traveling to France, Italy and England collecting material to be used in articles he intended to prepare for "The Saturday Review."

RSC

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

The files of the Passport Office, United States Department of State, reviewed by Special Employee C. CILMORE SHONDER on October 29, 1953, disclosed that OSCAR STANLEY BRAND was issued Passport Number 61554 on March 30, 1953, for a proposed four weeks travel to France, Italy and England for the purpose of collecting folk music for magazine articles and concerts. In his Passport file appears a letter from BRAND dated March 23, 1953, stating that the survey would be used for articles he intended to prepare for "The Saturday Review."

Subject stated in his Passport application dated March 23, 1953, at New York City, that he intended to

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (100-370969) 1 - New York (100-99536) (RM) 2 - Washington Field (100-28506)		DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 ON 7/9/72 LEO/cjg

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-50255-2

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-370969)

DATE: 12/24/53

FROM : SAC, NY (100-99586)

Card U.T.D.

1-12-54 etc

SUBJECT: OSCAR BRAND, wa  
SM - C

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME OSCAR BRAND

ALIASES \_\_\_\_\_

NATIVE BORN \_\_\_\_\_ NATURALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ ALIEN \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNIST \_\_\_\_\_ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY \_\_\_\_\_ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE \_\_\_\_\_

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

TAB FOR DETCOM \_\_\_\_\_ TAB FOR COMSAB \_\_\_\_\_ RACE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) \_\_\_\_\_

## KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ RESPONSIBILITY \_\_\_\_\_

INTERESTED AGENCIES \_\_\_\_\_

RESIDENCE ADDRESS 300 West 12th Street, Apartment 37 DEC 28 1953

Manhattan, NY, NY

JST: VEP 2 JAN 13 1954

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)



FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

~~General Bureau of Investigation~~  
**United States Department of Justice**

American Embassy  
1, Grosvenor Square  
London, W.1, England

~~SECRET~~

Date: January 12, 1954

To: Director, FBI (100-370969)

From: Legal Attache, London (100-810)

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Subject: OSCAR STANLEY BRAND  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Rebulet 11-10-53 to Department of State.

[redacted] advised that subject arrived in the United Kingdom from Paris on 11-4-53, and gave his local address as 64 Belsize Park, London, N.W.3. He departed from Preswick for New York on 11-24-53. (S)

The subject did not come to the attention of [redacted] during his visit here. Further inquiries are being made by [redacted] however, to determine whether any information of a security nature can be developed. The Bureau will be advised. (S)

JPO:AB  
\*P-

CC Paris (sent direct)

Classified by 6080  
Exempt from GDS, Category 1  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

LED/cjg 7/9/77

~~SECRET~~

RECORDED - 100-370969-10  
12 JAN 20 1954

35  
55 JAN 27 1954

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)



FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

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FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-370969)

DATE: 3/26/54

FROM : SAC, New York (100-99586)

SUBJECT: OSCAR BRAND, wa  
SM-C

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X

The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ALIASES \_\_\_\_\_

NATIVE BORN \_\_\_\_\_ NATURALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ ALIEN \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNIST \_\_\_\_\_ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY \_\_\_\_\_ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE \_\_\_\_\_

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

TAB FOR DETCOM \_\_\_\_\_ TAB FOR COMSAB \_\_\_\_\_ RACE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) \_\_\_\_\_

Free Lance Entertainer and Master of Ceremonies

on "Folk Song Festival" over WNYC

## KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ RESPONSIBILITY \_\_\_\_\_

INTERESTED AGENCIES \_\_\_\_\_

RESIDENCE ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

100-370969-  
NOT RECORDED

33 MAR 30 1954

RM  
DDP: MFW

APR 3-29 1954

INT SEC



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

American Embassy  
1, Grosvenor Square  
London, W. 1

~~SECRET~~

Date: March 25, 1954

To: Director, FBI

(100-370969)

From: Legal Attache  
London, England

(100-810)

Subject: OSCAR STANLEY BRAND  
SECURITY MATTER - C

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Remylet 1-12-54.(u)

[redacted] advises their further inquiries regarding the Subject's activities, while in England, have produced no results. BRAND did not come to adverse security notice while in England, and the address, at which he stayed, has not previously come to the attention of [redacted] in connection with coverage of Communist matters, nor does there appear to be any Communist living there. (S)

- RUC -

JPO:CFJ

Classified by 6080  
Exempt from GDS, Category 1  
Date of Declassification Indefinite  
LEO/rjg 2/9/77

~~SECRET~~

100-370969-14  
APR 7 1954

RECORDED - 79  
1-125

5 5 APR 14 1954

~~SECRET~~



FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
4/25/55, NEW YORK

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

Transmit the following Teletype message to: BUREAU  
OSCAR BRAND, WA; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ADVISED SA THEODORE F. BRUHL ON 4/25/55 THAT HE  
HAD BEEN CONTACTED BY OSCAR BRAND WHO STATED THAT HE HAD  
RECENTLY BEEN DENIED A PASSPORT FOR SECURITY REASONS AND  
ASKED [REDACTED] IF HE WOULD BE WILLING TO TESTIFY BEFORE  
THE STATE DEPARTMENT ON THIS MATTER. [REDACTED] ADVISED THAT  
HE COULD TESTIFY ONLY TO THE FOLLOWING. DURING THE PERIOD  
OF HIS EMPLOYMENT BY PEOPLES ARTIST, BRAND SENT A LETTER TO  
PEOPLES ARTIST REQUESTING THAT IN THE FUTURE HE NO LONGER BE  
ASSIGNED TO ENTERTAIN CP GROUPS OR FRONT GROUPS. AS A RESULT  
OF THIS LETTER, LEADERS OF PEOPLES ARTIST WHO INFORMANT FEELS  
WERE CP MEMBERS HELD A MEETING AND DECIDED THAT PEOPLES ARTIST  
WOULD GRANT BRAND'S REQUEST, HOWEVER, ALL FUTURE  
ASSIGNMENTS FOR BRAND FROM PEOPLES ARTIST WOULD BE THOSE NO  
OTHER ENTERTAINER DESIRED. BRAND WANTS [REDACTED] TO  
TESTIFY TO THIS IF THE STATE DEPARTMENT SO DESIRES.

3 - BUREAU

1 - [REDACTED]

TFB:MAN (#7-3)

[REDACTED]

RECORDED - 113

8 APR 27 1955

INT SEC

Approved

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M Per

Mr. Belmont

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
PAGE TWO  
- - - - -

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

[ ] WILLING TO TESTIFY, HOWEVER, HE RESERVED DECISION  
PENDING NOTIFICATION FROM THIS OFFICE. [ ] WAS  
ADVISED THAT THE FBI WOULD NOT INSTRUCT HIM IN THIS MATTER;  
HOWEVER, SHOULD HE DECIDE TO TESTIFY HE SHOULD NOT DISCLOSE  
HIS CONFIDENTIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FBI. [ ]  
ADVISED THAT BRAND HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH HOWARD RUSHMORE  
OF THE "JOURNAL AMERICAN" AND THAT RUSHMORE WAS GOING TO  
AID BRAND IN THIS MATTER IF HE POSSIBLY COULD. [ ]

[ ]

KELLY

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge



FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

FBI LIAISON:

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

RE:

Oscar Stanley BRAND *NOT*  
BORN: Feb 7, 1920  
PLACE: Canada

RESIDENCE:

4 Perry Street  
New York City, New York 10014

BUREAU FILE NUMBER:

100-370969 - *g 5/12*

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE:

Unknown

PASSPORT NUMBER:

A-0736000 issued April 13, 1970,  
New York

TRAVEL PLANS

DATE OF DEPARTURE:

June 1, 1970

PURPOSE OF TRIP:

Pleasure

PROPOSED LENGTH OF STAY:

2 weeks

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION:

Air

COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED:

England

*100-370969 -*  
NOT RECORDED

18 MAY 25 1970

PASSPORT OFFICE

Robert D. Johnson

*100-370969-*

*NY file 134-475*  
*Barfile 100-370969*  
2 Copies to New York  
by routing slip for  
☒ info ☐ action  
date 5/22/70  
by SSG [signature]

66 MAY 27 1970  
*352*